



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,
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RANUNCULUS ORTHORHYNCHUS* VAR *PLATYPHYLLUS
STRAIGHTBEAK BUTTERCUP

Straightbeak Buttercup is a perennial with several ascending to erect, somewhat hollow, usually branched stems that are 20-60 cm tall. Basal leaves have a thick petiole that is up to 25 cm long and lance-shaped blades that are 3-8 cm long and deeply pinnately divided into deeply lobed leaflets. The stem leaves are similar, but the ultimate leaf segments are linear. Foliage is sparsely to densely covered with long stiff hairs. 2-several stalked flowers are borne in an open inflorescence. The 5 reflexed, hairy sepals are 6-9 mm long, and the 5 yellow petals are 9-18 mm long. There are 20-50 glabrous achenes; each is 3-4 mm long, has a straight beak that is 2-4 mm long, and is borne in a nearly globose cluster. Flowering from June-early August.

Distinguished from other upright species of *RANUNCULUS* in our area with petals greater than 8 mm by the combination of the long, straight achene beak and pinnately divided basal leaves.